

VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND



Annual Report 1 July 2014— 30 June 2015

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Commissioner
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"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."

Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund FY 2015 Annual Report

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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Steven L. Beshear
Governor

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Heather French Henry
Commissioner

September 1, 2015

Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund
FY 2015 Annual Report

The Veterans Program Trust Fund was established as part of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Bonus Act on December 23, 1988 under Kentucky Revised Statute Chapter 40.460. This report provides a list of the present members of the Board of Directors.

During this reporting period, the Trust Fund expended/obligated funds for 17 worthy projects that will benefit Kentucky's veteran population. This report outlines the details concerning each of the Trust Fund expenditures for FY 2015.

Funding sources include dollars generated by taxpayers who are entitled to an income tax refund who may contribute all or a portion of that refund to the Trust Fund through the tax check-off on their state income tax form. The Trust Fund also receives a \$5.00 fee that is included in the price of an initial or renewal Veterans License Plate. The Trust Fund gladly accepts tax-deductible contributions from individuals, groups or corporations. This report outlines the amounts received from each of these sources.

The Trust Fund began the year with a balance of **\$376,072.59**.

Expenditures during the year totaled **\$515,269.81**. The fiscal year ended with a fund balance, less obligations, of **\$372,485.84** as shown in the financial report on page 6. Details concerning the projects are included in the use of funds section beginning on page 5.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heather French Henry".

Heather French Henry, Commissioner, KDVA
Chair, Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund

"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."

Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund

History and Operation

The Kentucky General Assembly established the Veterans Program Trust Fund (VPTF) as part of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Bonus Act on December 23, 1988. The purpose of the VPTF is to direct funding to projects and programs that help Kentucky's veterans but that are not funded by the state General Fund.

The VPTF is overseen by a board of directors whose members are appointed by the Governor. The list of members with their affiliations is on page 10. The VPTF Board of Directors meets several times a year on an *ad-hoc* basis as it receives requests for funding.

The VPTF has received a steady, moderate income from a \$5.00 fee that is included in the initial purchase price and renewal of veterans license plates.

The VPTF is also a legal recipient of tax-deductible contributions from individuals, companies and organizations. Such contributions may be made through the VPTF check-off box on the state income tax form, or directly to the VPTF through personal checks to the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. The Help a Veteran Every day (H.A.V. E.) Program encourages citizens to contribute directly to the Veterans Program Trust Fund at any county clerk office. In Fiscal Year 2010, KDVA started hosting an on-line donation page for the VPTF, allowing individuals to make secure donations by credit card or bank withdrawal.

Kentucky's veterans service organizations have contributed generously to the VPTF since its creation and continue to do so.

Donors may also specify that their contribution go to one of several specific programs/facilities KDVA operates for the benefit of veterans:

- Homeless Veterans Trust Fund
- Women Veterans Programs
- Benefits/Field Operations
- Thomson-Hood Veterans Center (Wilmore)
- Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center (Hazard)
- Western Kentucky Veterans Center (Hanson)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West (Hopkinsville)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central (Fort Knox)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North (Williamstown)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East (Greenup)

Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund

Highlights for FY 2015 (7/1/14 - 6/30/15)

As of July 1, 2014, the beginning of the fiscal year, the Trust Fund had **\$376,072.59**. Since that date the Trust Fund board members approved the following expenditures:

- 1. Continue Vet Connect, a rural veterans transportation program with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. - \$100,000**
- 2. Help the University of Kentucky establish the first globally available Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) - \$50,000**
- 3. Support the Homeless Veterans Program - \$40,000**
- 4. Support the University of Louisville's Veteran Entrepreneurship Program to help veterans start and expand businesses - \$20,000**
- 5. Bring the AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall to Lexington - \$10,000**
- 6. Fund a program by Kentucky Habitat for Humanity to repair veterans' homes - \$32,170**
- 7. Support Women's Veterans Programs at Athena's Sisters and KDVA - \$10,000**

Find more items beginning on Page 11.

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Program Trust Fund - State Funds 6307 and 6308
Summary Fund Activity Report - Fiscal Year 2015 (July 2014 - June 2015)

Fund Balance, Beginning of FY15	FY 2015 YTD
Carryforward	\$ 376,072.59
Receipts:	
License Plate Fees (R404)	424,204.41
Tax Check-off (R809)	40,156.00
Miscellaneous Donations (R801 & R802)	17,023.32
KY Housing - WES Program	30,000.00
Interest Income (R771)	299.33
Total Receipts:	511,683.06
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS	\$ 887,755.65
Expenditures:	
Eastern Kentucky University - Veterans Projects	\$ 40,000.00
Alan Hyman Enterprises - FOPS Outreach Items	\$ 995.00
AMVETS National Service Foundation- KVCNE Carillon	\$ 8,301.20
Office Depot	\$ 142.97
Athena's Sisters	\$ 10,000.00
Interlink Counseling Services	\$ 9,209.00
Jefferson Co Treatment Court Steering Committee	\$ 1,000.00
Jessie's Art Gallery	\$ 53.05
Post Printing	\$ 4,302.29
Staples, Inc	\$ 63.96
USACares	\$ 75,000.00
Auditor of Public Accounts - FY14 VPTF Audit	\$ 10,260.00
Somerset Community College	\$ 15,000.00
University of Louisville	\$ 20,000.00
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)	\$ 25,000.00
University of Kentucky	\$ 50,000.00
Kentucky Prostate Cancer Coalition	\$ 2,500.00
Epilepsy Foundation of Kentuckiana	\$ 2,500.00
America's Mint - lapel pins for Womens Veterans Conference	\$ 2,400.00
Cardinal Office Products	\$ 69.97
Axxis, Inc.	\$ 4,021.00
Alan Hyman Enterprises - WV Conference	\$ 460.00
Centerplate	\$ 9,556.29
The Kentucky Center - Arts in Healing - (WVP)	\$ 154.00
Homeless Veterans Trust Fund	\$ 40,000.00
Honor Flight Bluegrass Chapter, Inc.	\$ 25,000.00
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	\$ 100,000.00
Kentucky Habitat for Humanity	\$ 32,170.00
4Imprint (promotional items FOPS)	\$ 5,521.65
Expenses related to Vietnam Wall *	\$ 11,573.84
Expenses related to Vietnam Commemoration *	\$ 10,015.59
TOTAL EXPENDED	\$ 515,269.81
Fund Balance (Cash on Hand)	\$ 372,485.84

* Expense Breakout at Bottom of Next Page

State Veterans Cemeteries Fund (637R)

Fund Balance, Beginning of FY15	FY 2015 YTD
Carryforward	\$ 47,646.56
Additional Donations	28,780.56
Other Adjustments	1,641.00
Interest	40.19
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS	78,108.31
Expenditures	\$ 26,100.44
Ending Balance	\$ 52,007.87
Ending Balance	\$ 75,569.46

AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall

AVTT/TFT - Vietnam Traveling Wall	\$ 8,770.00
R.J. Roberts - Insurance on Vietnam Traveling Wall	\$ 819.88
Amazon - Candles for candlelight service & concession items	\$ 97.82
Bryants Rent All (Tent for Vietnam Wall)	\$ 1,740.00
Walmart.com - Misc items for Vietnam Wall event	\$ 146.14
Total expenses related to Vietnam Wall	\$11,573.84

Vietnam Commemoration

Postmaster - Postage Vietnam Commemoration	\$ 20.42
Rent & Rave, Inc	\$ 5,325.39
Kroger	\$ 127.68
Tingles Riverview Florist	\$ 567.10
America's Mint - lapel pins for Vietnam Veterans Commemoration	\$ 3,975.00
Total expenses related to Vietnam Commemoration	\$10,015.59

HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM

In April 2015, KDVA celebrated the tenth anniversary of its Homeless Veterans Transition Facility at the Leestown Campus of the Lexington VA Medical Center, created in partnership with Volunteers of America.



As of June 30, 2015, the Leestown program had graduated 196 (23 in FY15) veterans who were once homeless and with drug problems, helping them become drug and alcohol free, and obtain stable housing and steady employment. FY 2015 offered continued success as 106 veterans received services at the 40 bed capacity. In October 2014, St. James Place apartments in Lexington celebrated the ninth year of operation with all 38 efficiency apartment units (that can be occupied by men and women veterans) homeless veterans fully occupied. These units receive support from the USDVA Homeless Veterans Grant & Per Diem Program. Each unit is complete with kitchen and private bath giving the veterans more independence. Lexington also served 30 male veterans at the Hope Center facility which is part of a larger program for the homeless. In addition, the Hope Center added five beds for female veterans on their women's campus.

Interlink Counseling Services of Louisville serves the needs of homeless veterans with a 90-bed capacity. Interlink also operates the Landing Zone, allowing up to ten homeless veterans to be taken off the street without waiting if an emergency (extreme weather, for example) warrants this.

St. Vincent DePaul in Louisville provides twenty beds as part of a grant and per diem program. Wayside Christian Mission provides transitional housing for up to 10 men, four women, and two families. These family units, unique in the Commonwealth, allow the veteran to bring a spouse and children into the unit. Finally, the Salvation Army provided housing for 27 male veterans in the newly renovated old Male High School building on Brooks Street, which is also the location for Louisville Stand Down for Homeless Veterans.

In addition to room and board, all of these facilities offer the following:

- Drug and alcohol abuse counseling
- Education referrals
- Employment and job training referrals
- Assistance with permanent housing.

The Pennyroyal Center in Hopkinsville began operation in 2012 of a 50-bed facility for homeless veterans (male), the first of its kind in western Kentucky. The Trust Fund provided a substantial grant to guarantee the success of the Center, made to supplement the primary funding coming from the USDVA grant and per diem program.

Mountain Comprehensive Care opened a 27-bed transitional housing program for homeless veterans in Pikeville that will serve male veterans in the eastern region of the state.

Information and referral programs for homeless veterans are called "stand downs." During this fiscal year four stand downs were held. These were held state-wide in the cities of Bowling Green, Covington, Lexington, and Louisville. With Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund grants to the Homeless Veterans Program, and the coordination of efforts by KDVA, USDVA hospitals, the Kentucky Housing Corporation, and other social and health service providers, these stand downs will help alleviate the already 600-800 homeless veterans sleeping on the streets of our Commonwealth every night.

Some 10,000 veterans face the very real possibility of losing homes and becoming homeless. These programs are critical in solving the problem.

HOMELESS VETERANS TRUST FUND

The Homeless Veterans Trust Fund (HVTF) seeks to prevent homelessness among veterans and help homeless veterans return to permanent housing quickly. It provides small, one-time cash grants for rent deposits, utility payments and other housing-related expenses.

The HVTF represents a beacon of hope to veterans who otherwise would slip into or remain in a state of homelessness.

FY 15 Milestones

Total Assistance to Veterans: **\$84,389**

Veterans Assisted: **367**

Average Amount of Assistance: **\$229**

191 Veterans received rental assistance

176 Veterans received utility assistance

Also sponsored Central Kentucky Housing and Homeless Initiative

Homeless Veterans Trust Fund Fiscal Year 2015

Carryforward 7/1/2015	\$	70,548.83
Revenue		
Donations	\$	11,069.00
Veterans Program Trust Fund	\$	40,000.00
Interest	\$	28.89
Total Revenue	\$	51,097.89
Expenditures		
Total Assistance Granted	\$	87,083.22
Year End Cash Balance	\$	34,563.50
Ending Balance	\$	70,548.83

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Program Trust Fund Board Members

(as of June 30, 2015)

POSITION	NAME	Organization	Term Expires
Chairman	Heather French Henry	Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs	201 KAR 37:010 Section 3 (1)(a)
Vice Chair	Margaret Plattner	Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs	201 KAR 37:010 Section 3 (1)(a)
Member	Mr. Richard Eisert	Joint Executive Committee of Veterans Organizations	EO 2014 – 891 11/7/2014—7/15/2017
Member	Ms. Micki King	Governor's Advisory Board	EO 2011 – 676 07/15/2011—7/15/2014
Member	Mr. Ted Austin	American Legion	EO 2013 - 482 7/15/2013 – 07/15/2016
Member	Mr. Carl Kaelin	Veterans of Foreign Wars	EO 2014 – 891 11/7/2014—7/15/2017
Member	Mr. Joe Doeblor	AMVETS	EO 2013 – 749 10/16/2013 – 07/15/2016
Member	Mr. Dave Jarrett	Disabled American Veterans	EO 2014 – 847 10/17/2014 – 07/15/2016
Member	Mr. Carlos Pugh	At-Large	EO 2014 – 891 11/7/2014—7/15/2017
Member	COL. ® Dave Thompson	At-Large	EO 2014 – 891 11/7/2014—7/15/2017
Member	BG Ben Adams	National Guard	EO 2013 – 482 7/16/2013 – 07/15/2016

Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors December 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes Excerpts

The following requests for funds were presented:

1. U of L Veteran Entrepreneurship Program - \$20,000

Funding to continue program that assists veterans in starting and growing their own businesses.

Board voted to approve the request for \$20,000

2. Disabled American Veterans - \$55,000

Funding to purchase a van to transport veterans to medical appointments..

Board voted to approve \$25,000 of the request.

3. Veterans Memorial Park, PeeWee Valley - \$18,000

Funding to purchase two informational markers for a WWII Memorial.

Board voted to approve the request for \$18,000, subject to completion of the Memorial

4. Somerset Community College - \$75,000

Funding to support the SCC Office of Military and Veterans Affairs to help student veterans transition to college and to graduate.

Board voted to approve \$15,000 of the request.

5. University of Kentucky - \$50,000

Funding to develop the first globally available Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).

Board voted to approve the request for \$50,000.

Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors March 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes Excerpts

The following requests for funds were presented:

University of Louisville Veteran Entrepreneurship Program - \$20,000

Funding to help veterans establish and grow their own businesses.

Board voted to approve this request by email vote.

AVTT Traveling Wall - \$4,000

Funds to make deposit on Traveling Vietnam Wall to come to Lexington.

Board voted to approve this request by email vote.

Kentucky Prostate Cancer Coalition - \$2,500

Funds to cover the cost of PSA and test for screenings at the Kentucky State Fair.

Board voted to approve this request.

Operation Outreach - \$10,000

Funding to support the Kentucky Veteran of the Year Banquet.

Board voted for approve \$2,500 for printing costs, with stipulations that group must submit receipts to Board and return any unused funds.

Kentucky Wounded Heroes, Inc. - \$37,894

Funds to purchase a van to transport veterans to hunting and fishing events.

Board voted to approve \$12,000 of this request, with stipulations that group raise the remainder of funds within one year and provide invoice of purchase on request.

Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors May 29, 2015 Meeting Minutes Excerpts

The following requests for funds were presented:

Athena Sisters - \$5,000

Financial support for the Women Veterans Programs

Board voted (via email or write-in vote) to approve this request.

AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall - \$6,000

Funding to bring the Traveling Vietnam Wall to Lexington

Board voted (via email or write in-vote) to approve this request.

Office of Kentucky Transportation Delivery - \$100,000

Funding to continue with the VetConnect Transportation program.

Board voted to approve this request.

KDVA Homeless Veterans Program - \$80,000

Funding to continue the Homeless Veterans Emergency Assistance Program.

Board voted to approve \$40,000 of this request.

Bluegrass Honor Flight - \$25,000

Funding support with expenses for flight to take veterans to Washington, DC.

Board voted to approve this request.

KDVA Women Veterans Program - \$5,000

Financial support for Women Veterans Programs.

Board voted to approve this request.

Kentucky Habitat for Humanity - \$32,170

Funding to repairs homes of Kentucky Veterans.

Board voted to approve this request.



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